

## **Focus Area 15: Injury and Violence Prevention**

**Objective 15-32** targets an overall reduction in the homicide death rate to 3.0 per 100,000 population.

California's age-adjusted death rates for homicide deaths were 6.0 per 100,000 population in 2000, 6.4 in 2001, 6.8 in 2002, and 6.7 in 2003 (Figure 15-32, Table 15-32). California's homicide death rates are significantly higher than the HP2010 target of 3.0 per 100,000 population, and this objective has not yet been achieved.

California data by race and ethnicity show that the highest age-adjusted homicide death rates were found for African Americans/Blacks (25.8 per 100,000 in 2000, 26.7 in 2001, 30.3 in 2002, and 28.8 in 2003). These rates are nearly ten times greater than the HP2010 objective, and over four times greater than the statewide rate. The next highest homicide death rate was found for Hispanics/Latinos (7.5 per 100,000 in 2000 and 2001, and 7.8 in 2002 and 2003), followed by Whites (3.4 per 100,000 in 2001, 3.2 in 2002, and 3.0 in 2003). The HP2010 objective is not being achieved for any of these racial and ethnic groups as of 2003. This objective was being achieved for Asians (2.9 per 100,000 in 2000, 2.7 in 2001, and 2.8 in 2002) until 2003, when the homicide death rate rose to 3.6 per 100,000. Also in 2003, the "Multirace" population had a rate of 2.9 per 100,000 population, below the HP2010 target. Death rates for the American Indian/Alaska Native and the Pacific Islander populations were unreliable due to the small number of events and are not reported here.

Age-adjusted homicide death rates for males (9.6 per 100,000 in 2000, 10.2 in 2001, and 11.0 in 2002 and 2003) were significantly higher than those for females (2.2 per 100,000 in 2000, 2.5 in 2001, 2.4 in 2002, and 2.3 in 2003). This HP2010 objective is being achieved for females, but not for males as of 2003.

For more information on homicide in California, visit the Chronic Disease and Injury Control (CDIC) Web site at:

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/ps/cdic/>

And the Epidemiology and Prevention for Injury Control (EPIC) site at:

<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/epic/>

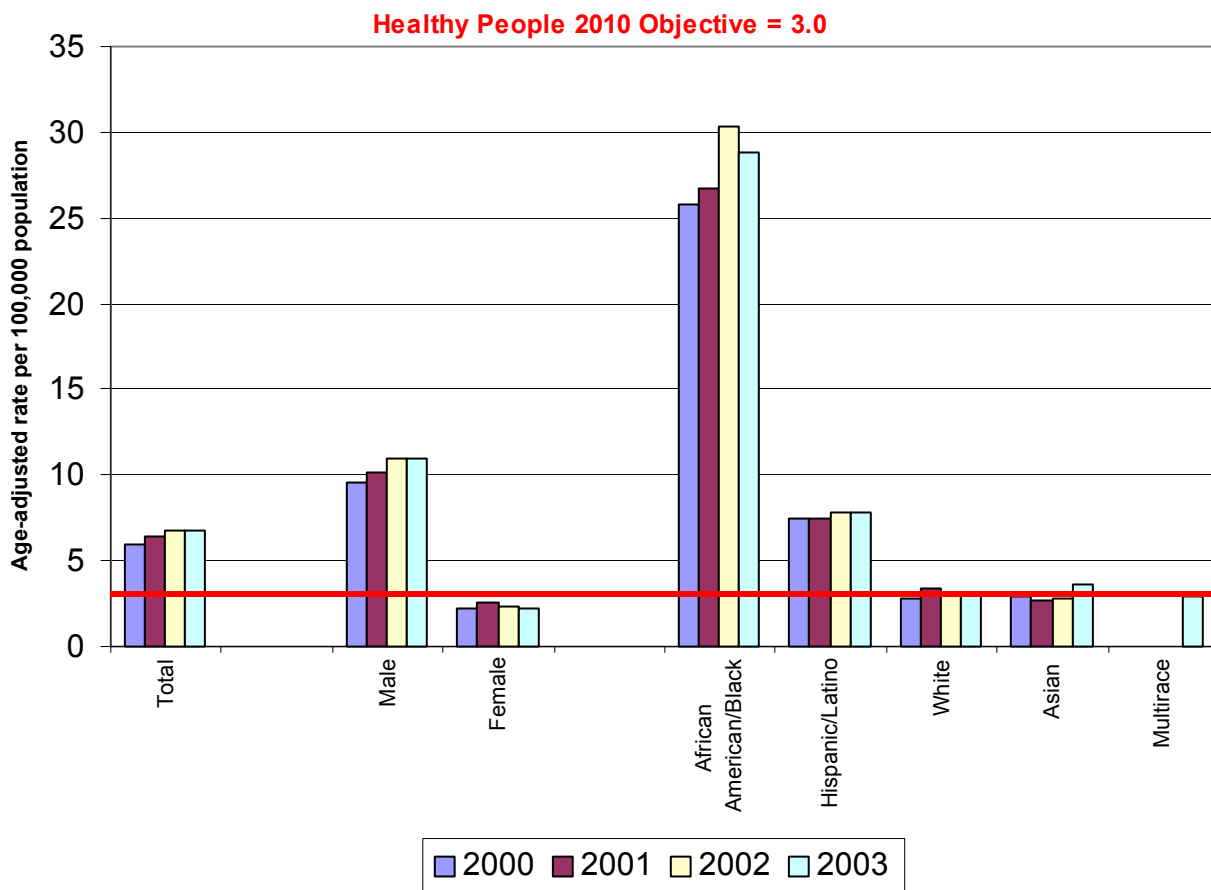
For more information on Healthy People 2010 objective 15-32, please visit:

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/HTML/Volume2/15Injury.htm>

and

<http://www.healthypeople.gov/Document/html/tracking/od15.htm>

**Figure 15-32**  
**Homicide Death Rates**  
**California, 2000-2003**



**Table 15-32**  
**Homicide Deaths and Death Rates**  
**California, 2000-2003**

	2000		Lower	Upper	2001		Lower	Upper
	N	Rate <sup>1</sup>	95% C.I.	95% C.I.	N	Rate <sup>1</sup>	95% C.I.	95% C.I.
<b>Healthy People 2010 Target</b>		<b>3.0</b>				<b>3.0</b>		
<b>CALIFORNIA TOTAL</b>	2,076	6.0	5.7	6.2	2,293	6.4	6.2	6.7
<b>Race-Ethnicity</b>								
African American/Black	595	25.8	23.7	27.9	635	26.7	24.6	28.8
American Indian	4	DSU	-----	-----	11	DSU	-----	-----
Asian	111	2.9	2.4	3.4	110	2.7	2.2	3.2
Hispanic/Latino	898	7.5	6.9	8.0	955	7.5	7.0	8.0
Pacific Islander	10	DSU	-----	-----	8	DSU	-----	-----
White	447	2.8	2.5	3.0	533	3.4	3.1	3.6
Multirace	10	DSU	-----	-----	14	DSU	-----	-----
<b>Gender</b>								
Female	379	2.2	2.0	2.4	436	2.5	2.3	2.8
Male	1,697	9.6	9.1	10.0	1,857	10.2	9.7	10.6

	2002		Lower	Upper	2003		Lower	Upper
	N	Rate <sup>1</sup>	95% C.I.	95% C.I.	N	Rate <sup>1</sup>	95% C.I.	95% C.I.
<b>Healthy People 2010 Target</b>		<b>3.0</b>				<b>3.0</b>		
<b>CALIFORNIA TOTAL</b>	2,452	6.8	6.5	7.0	2,475	6.7	6.5	7.0
<b>Race-Ethnicity</b>								
African American/Black	740	30.3	28.1	32.5	725	28.8	26.7	31.0
American Indian	18	DSU	-----	-----	10	DSU	-----	-----
Asian	114	2.8	2.3	3.3	145	3.6	3.0	4.2
Hispanic/Latino	1,036	7.8	7.2	8.3	1,084	7.8	7.3	8.3
Pacific Islander	15	DSU	-----	-----	9	DSU	-----	-----
White	511	3.2	2.9	3.5	480	3.0	2.7	3.3
Multirace	16	DSU	-----	-----	21	2.9	1.6	4.2
<b>Gender</b>								
Female	417	2.4	2.1	2.6	405	2.3	2.0	2.5
Male	2,035	11.0	10.5	11.4	2,070	11.0	10.5	11.5

SOURCES: CA Department of Health Services, Death Records, 2000-2003; CA Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit, Population Projections by Race/Ethnicity for California and Its Counties 2000-2050, May 2004.

NOTES: Homicide deaths defined by ICD-10 codes X85-Y09, Y87.1.

<sup>1</sup> Rate per 100,000 population, age-adjusted using the 2000 US population standard; excludes death records with unknown ages.

DSU Data Statistically Unreliable due to small number of events.